Stephanie Gerretsen

VP for External Communications

Former USAID and United Nations Program Officer with 10+ years experience in strategic planning, communications, and urban development.

sgerretsen@wice.org

Linkedin

Contact

15 Years of experience

Professional Bio:

Stephanie is an urban planning and strategic communications professional with over a decade of international experience working with UN agencies, multilateral institutions, and governments to advance sustainable development goals through policy, planning, and public engagement. She specializes in developing long-range, evidence-based strategies that support climate resilience, urban regeneration, and inclusive economic growth.

Her work bridges research, strategy, and storytelling to drive systems-level change. A central focus of her professional and academic pursuits—also the subject of her PhD research—has been understanding the urban and economic impacts of sports stadiums, arenas, and entertainment districts. She has explored

Skills & Expertise:

Project Management, Policy Development, Proposal Writing, Private Sector Engagement, Strategic Planning, Infrastructure / Energy, Climate & Resilience, Strategic Communications, Urban Planning

Sectors of Work:

International Development, Economic Growth, Climate & Environment

Languages Spoken:

English, German, Spanish, Swahili, French

how large-scale infrastructure can shape neighborhood development, land value, and city governance when integrated within broader urban policy frameworks.

Through roles at the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), UN-Habitat, and USAID, Stephanie has supported climate and water-focused initiatives that incorporate nature-based solutions, enhance urban policy, and foster cross-sector collaboration. She has also led strategic communications for global campaigns on plastic pollution, freshwater ecosystems, and sustainable development, translating complex policy and scientific insights into compelling narratives that inform, inspire, and mobilize diverse audiences.

Thriving at the intersection of urban planning and communications, Stephanie is currently open to consulting or new opportunities with organizations addressing today's most urgent climate and urban challenges.

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